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are aged more than 25 years, whether it is a fact that their previous service in Government offices will not as a matter of course be reckoned for the purposes of exemption from age-limit for future scope for entry into Government service; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the reasons for treating those 9 (a) (i) candidates differently from other cases of non-9 (a) (i) candidates who securing even a temporary Government job before the age of 25 are automatically deemed to have obtained exemption from age restriction for future entry to Government service?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (a) In the case of all candidates employed under general rule 9 (a) (i) the temporary service rendered by them up to 31st December 1948 will be taken into account in computing their age for appointment.

" (b) With a view to regularise the services of persons employed in the Civil Supplies Department, Government permitted them to sit for the special competitive examination held by the Madras Public Service Commision in February 1952 and June 1952, subject to certain conditions. Many of the persons could not however satisfy the prescribed conditions and the hardship to a large number of persons in the Civil Supplies Department who were suddenly thrown out of employment continued. The Government therefore directed that temporary persons discharged from the Civil Supplies Department be allowed to deduct the period of their temporary service under the State Government subsequent to their discharge from the Civil Supplies Department in computing their age for appointment."

Additional staff in the Government Hospital at Badagara.

* 696 *Q.*—SRI E. K. SANKARA VARMA RAJA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) having increased the number of beds in the Government Headquarters Hospital at Badagara in Kurumbranad taluk, Malabar district, the reasons for the delay in appointing the necessary staff; and

(b) when they will be appointed?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) & (b) The proposal to increase the bed strength and staff of the hospital will be considered in connexion with the regular budget for 1953–54."

Number of buses run by the Government.

* 697 *Q.*—SRI N. VENKATARAMIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) the number of buses owned and run by the Government; and